

Witness To Tell Of Seeing Oswald

NEW ORLEANS (UPI) — A truck salesman who told the FBI Lee Harvey Oswald might have been in New Orleans and not Dallas two weeks before President Kennedy was assassinated has been subpoenaed to testify before the New Orleans grand jury.

The grand jury subpoenaed Oscar W. Deslatte Tuesday, a day after Deslatte had talked with Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison.

Deslatte said two men, one of whom was called "Oswald," approached him two weeks before the assassination and asked about the prices of trucks.

ANOTHER FIGURE in the assassination investigation, Gordon Novel, was to appear in a Columbus, Ohio, court

room today to show why he should not be returned to Louisiana on a fugitive warrant.

Garrison claims Novel is an "important and material witness" in his investigation of the president's death.

Attorney G. Wray Gill, speaking for Deslatte, said Deslatte attached no importance to the two men's questions about trucks they wanted to purchase on behalf of "Friends of Cuba" until after the assassination.

The Warren Commission report said Oswald left New Orleans Sept. 25, 1963, two months before the assassination, and never returned.

Gill said, Deslatte told the FBI about the conversation with the two men and that was the last he had heard about it until now.

GILL SAID Deslatte had been subpoenaed to appear in Garrison's office Monday and he did appear. Following that session, a grand jury subpoena was issued Tuesday. Deslatte is to testify May 10, when the jury next convenes.

Novel, 29, was to appear in municipal court for a hearing on the first fugitive warrant charging him with conspiracy in the alleged theft of explosives from Schlesinger Oil Well Services Co. in Hugman, La., in 1961.

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